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ABSTRACT

This guidebook provides a rationale and guidelines for implementing a student-driven learning approach using enrichment clusters. Enrichment clusters allow students who share a common interest to meet each week to produce a product, performance, or targeted service based on that common interest. Chapter 1 discusses different models of learning. Chapter 2 defines enrichment clusters. Guidelines for enrichment clusters are provided and include: (1) focus on application of content and process; (2) allow students and teachers to select the clusters in which they wish to participate; (3) group students across grades by interest areas; (4) do not use predetermined unit or lesson plans; (5) guide clusters with the authentic methods and advanced content and materials that investigators and creative professionals use; (6) provide opportunities to develop multiple talents within an enrichment cluster through division of labor; (7) set aside designated time blocks for enrichment clusters; and (8) suspend the customs of regular schooling. Chapter 3 describes seven steps to implementing an enrichment cluster program. Chapter 4 provides guidelines for developing an enrichment cluster. Chapter 5 addresses staff development and program evaluation. Chapter 6 discusses research underlying the enrichment cluster program. Extensive appendices include surveys and planning forms. (Contains 30 references.) (CR)

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